

Application No.: 10/764,847
Amendment dated: December 28, 2005
Reply to Office action of 09/30/2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

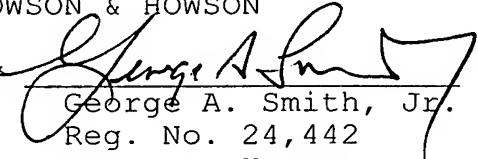
The claims rejected under sections 102 and 103 have been cancelled. New dependent claims 25 and 26 have been added. these added claims are dependent respectively on allowed claims 9 and 16.

Claim 24 has been amended to address the rejection under 35 USC §112. In the amended version of claim 24, a three-dimensional knitted fabric between the base body and the wet paper web-contacting surface has openings with the specified opening ratio and maximum size. The claim no longer contains any requirement concerning openings in the three-dimensional fabric on the machine side of the base body, and is therefore enabled by the description in paragraph 0057.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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